

Clay Spur Bentonite Plant and Camp, Outbuilding
Clay Spur Siding on the Burlington Northern
Railroad
4 miles northwest of Osage
Weston County
Wyoming

HAER No. WY-23-S

HAER
WYO,
23-OSAG.V,
1-5-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Engineering Record
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
National Park Service
U. S. Department of the Interior
P. O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

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Clay Spur Bentonite Plant and Camp, Outbuilding

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Location: Clay Spur Siding on the Burlington Northern Railroad,
4 miles northwest of Osage in Weston County, Wyoming

Date of Construction: Unknown

Present Owner: N. L. Baroid
Alzada Star Route
Belle Fourche, South Dakota

Present Use: Abandoned; site to be razed

Significance: The Clay Spur Bentonite Plant and Camp is associated
with the early 20th century bentonite mining industry
in Wyoming and the United States. The Clay Spur
Bentonite District was the center of the pioneer
Wyoming bentonite industry and remained the premier
Wyoming producing district until reserves began to
dwindle in the 1950s. The plant embodies the
distinctive engineering technology of the bentonite
industry. The camp also reflects early twentieth
century company town architecture with simple
buildings and floor plans that could be quickly and
cheaply constructed and adapted to many different uses.

Between and to the rear of the one-unit and two-unit
dwellings is a small frame outbuilding (8 feet square)
with a leanto roof. The roof and walls are covered
with corrugated metal sheeting. The interior is lined
with particle board. The function and construction
date of this building are unknown.

Historian: Robert Rosenberg
Historical Consultant

July 1989

NOTE: For more information, see Clay Spur Bentonite Plant and Camp,
HAER No. WY-23.